

I. In The Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-4 (canceled)

5. (currently amended) A method for making a combination of a thematic package and an article contained in the package for combined marketing, the method including the steps of:

constructing the package as a replica of a recognizable icon, the package having a shape that is different than any shape [of the article] to be contained therein,

the shape of the package visually [conveying information about] suggestive of an activity associated with the icon in which the article is used during the activity, after removal from the package,

the package having a ~~hallow~~ hollow interior; [and]

locating the article within the ~~hallow~~ hollow interior of the package to form [a] the combination of the article and the thematically-shaped package; and  
marketing the combination.

Claims 6-7 (canceled)

8. (currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the step of constructing includes: constructing the package as a the replica of a golf ball as the icon, and wherein the activity is a game of golf.

9. (currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the step of constructing includes: constructing a the replica of as a baseball as the icon, and wherein the activity is a game of baseball.

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the step of constructing includes: constructing the package as a the replica of a life preserver as the icon, and wherein the activity is a race.

11. (currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the step of constructing includes: constructing the package as a the replica of a football as the icon, and wherein the activity is a game of football.

12. (currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the step of constructing includes: constructing the package as a the replica of a tennis ball as the icon, and wherein the activity is a game of tennis.

13. (currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the step of constructing includes: constructing the package as a the replica of a soccer ball as the icon, and wherein the activity is a game of soccer.

14. (currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the step of constructing includes: constructing the package as a the replica of a ~~rugby ball~~ wheel as the icon, and wherein the activity is a race.

15. (currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the step of constructing includes: constructing the package as the replica of a card symbolizing charge and or bank cards card as the icon, and wherein the activity includes use of the card.

16. (canceled)

17. (currently amended) The method of claim 5, further including the step of locating a logo on the ~~replica~~ package.

18. (currently amended) The method of claim 5, further including the step of: adding an outer layer of packaging to the combination, the outer layer of packaging also shaped to visually ~~convey information about~~ suggest the associated activity.

19. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein the outer layer includes a sleeve for golf balls.

20. (currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the step of constructing further includes the step of:

constructing the ~~replica~~ package to have additional utility independent from ~~and having a shape visually conveying information about an activity associated with the replica~~ containing said article.

21. (currently amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the step of constructing the ~~replica~~ package to have additional utility includes the step of:

constructing the package to be a toy after said removal of said article.

22. (currently amended) The method of claim 20, wherein the step of constructing the ~~replica~~ package to have additional utility further includes the step of:

constructing the ~~replica~~ package out of a substance capable of to receive

receiving subsequent writing from a pen or magic marker ~~thereon~~.

23. (currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the step of constructing includes securing to an exterior part of the package ~~further including~~ a means for attaching the ~~replica package~~ package to ~~an other~~ another article.

24. (currently amended) A method for making a combination of thematic packaging and an article contained in the thematic packaging, the method including the steps of:

forming the combination by providing an the object article in a the package,

the package being shaped like a particular ball to visually ~~convey information about~~  
suggest a particular sport activity associated with said ball, the package being openable to remove the article,

the object being a member of the group of rain gear consisting of a wiping cloth, a rain coat, a rain vest, a golf bag cover, a ditty bag, a poncho, a hat, and a seat cover,

the member being useful during the activity wherein the package is openable to remove the ~~object~~ article for use of the object while engaged in the associated activity.

25. (currently amended) A method for making a combination of thematically-shaped packaging for a thematically associated article contained therein, the method including the steps of:

constructing a package having a shape that is a recognizable icon visually suggestive of ~~conveying information about~~ an activity associated with the icon,

the package having a hollow interior to form the packaging for the article;

locating the article within the hollow interior of the package,

the article having a use in the associated activity, to form a the combination of the

article and the thematically-shaped packaging; and wherein the step of constructing further includes the step of:

constructing the package as a replica of a golf ball to visually ~~convey information of association of~~ suggest the activity of a game of golf; and wherein the step of locating the article within the packaging further includes the step of:

locating rain gear, as the article, within the hollow interior of the replica such that the rain gear is removable for the use during, and visually associated for use in, the activity of playing the game of golf in the rain.

26. (currently amended) A method of making a combination of thematically-shaped packaging ~~for~~ and an article contained therein, the method including the steps of:

constructing the package as a replica of a symbol having a shape that visually suggests ~~conveys information about~~ an activity associated with the symbol,

the package having a hollow interior to form the packaging for the article;

locating the article within the hollow interior of the packaging,

the article having a use in the associated activity,

~~and forming activity and to form~~ forming a the combination of the article and the thematically-shaped packaging;

and wherein the step of constructing further includes the step of:

constructing the package as a replica of a baseball to visually ~~convey information about~~ suggest the associated activity of a baseball game;

and wherein the step of locating the article within the package further includes the step of:

locating rain gear, as the article, within the packaging such that the rain gear is removable for the use during, and visually associated with, the associated activity of watching the

baseball game in the rain.

27. (currently amended) The method of any one claims 5 and 8-23, further including wherein the step of locating:  
~~\_\_\_\_\_ packaging the package within an other package, the other package suggestive of the member of the group~~ is carried out with rain gear as the article.

28. (currently amended) The method of any one of claims 5 and 8-23, further including the steps of: ~~wherein the step of locating the article within the hollow includes engaging lips on respective portions of the package to encase the article, the portions forming halves of the hollow when joined during the locating step~~  
\_\_\_\_\_ locating another article within the hollow, the other article having a use during the activity, after removal from the package.

29. (currently amended) The method of any one claims 5 and 8-23, wherein the step of constructing includes constructing the replica out of plastic and the article out of plastic.

30. (currently amended) The method of claim 5 29, wherein the step of ~~locating~~ constructing is carried out with the ~~article being an article made of plastic~~ activity being a sport activity.

31. (currently amended) The method of claim 5 26, wherein the step of ~~locating the article within the hollow includes engaging lips on respective portions of the ball to encase the article.~~ constructing includes constructing the package as having separably joinable

pieces, the pieces being joinable to form the hollow interior of the package and being separably to open the package for the removal of the article.

32. (new) The method of claim 5, wherein the step of constructing includes the step of imprinting a message on the package, the message being suggestive of the use of the article.

33. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein the step of constructing includes constructing the package as having separably joinable pieces, the pieces being joinable to form the hollow interior of the package and being separably to open the package for the removal of the article.

34. (new) A method for making more than one combination of a thematic package and article respectively contained therein for combined marketing, the method including the steps of:

constructing the packages as respective replicas of at least one recognizable icon, one of the packages having a shape that is different than any shape to be contained therein,

each said package having a shape visually suggestive of an activity associated with said at least one icon in which the respective article is used during the activity, after removal from the package, and

each said package having a hollow interior;

locating the respective articles within the respective hollow interiors of the respective packages to form the more than one combination of the articles and the thematic packages; and

marketing the more than one combination.

35. (new) The method of claim 34, wherein:

the step of constructing the packages to replicate the at least one recognizable icon is carried out with each said at least one recognizable icon being a golf ball; and further including the step of packaging the more than one combination in a box having an appearance of a sleeve for golf balls to permit carrying out of said step of marketing the more than one combination.

36. (new) The method of claim 34, wherein the step of marketing the more than one combination is carried out with the respective packages resembling balls and with a box therefore.

37. (new) The method of claim 34, wherein the step of locating is carried out with the articles respectively being different kinds of rain gear.

38. (new) The method of claim 34, wherein the step of locating is carried out with the articles respectively being different kinds of articles.

39. (new) The method of claim 38, wherein the step of locating is carried out with one of the kinds of articles including rain gear.

40. (new) The method of claim 34, wherein the step of constructing the packages includes constructing the packages to respectively resemble a variety of balls.



41. (new) The method of any one claims 5 and 8-23, wherein the step of locating is carried out with the article from a group consisting of sun screen, a band-aide, a golf tee, a ball mark, insect repellent, and bee sting treatment.